

Brian Laurenson
2238 Muir Woods Place
Davis CA 95616

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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

Telecommunications and internet connections are vital to my work and connectivity to the work. As a small business operator, I consider our workplace internet connections as the most critical infrastructure that should be in the Public Trust, open, and not controlled by corporate interests alone. I am forced in several cases for my business to use the big telecoms because of the lack of competition. The big telecoms treat me as a number within their own bureaucracy that is biased to up-charge me with fees. Often these fees seem arbitrary based on "agreements" to renew service that can be waived only if I threaten to discontinue service. The telecoms now know I have few options in some of my business connections and have little motivation to treat me fairly. Arbitrary caps on data usage, throttling, and content filtering are all concerns that would be heightened without the competition of local broadband.

Competition in several of our offices brought fiber and high speed wifi that increased our productivity and provided more options for telephone and connectivity to an increasingly mobile workforce.

Please keep local internet providers and allow them access to internet backbone!

Brian Laurenson